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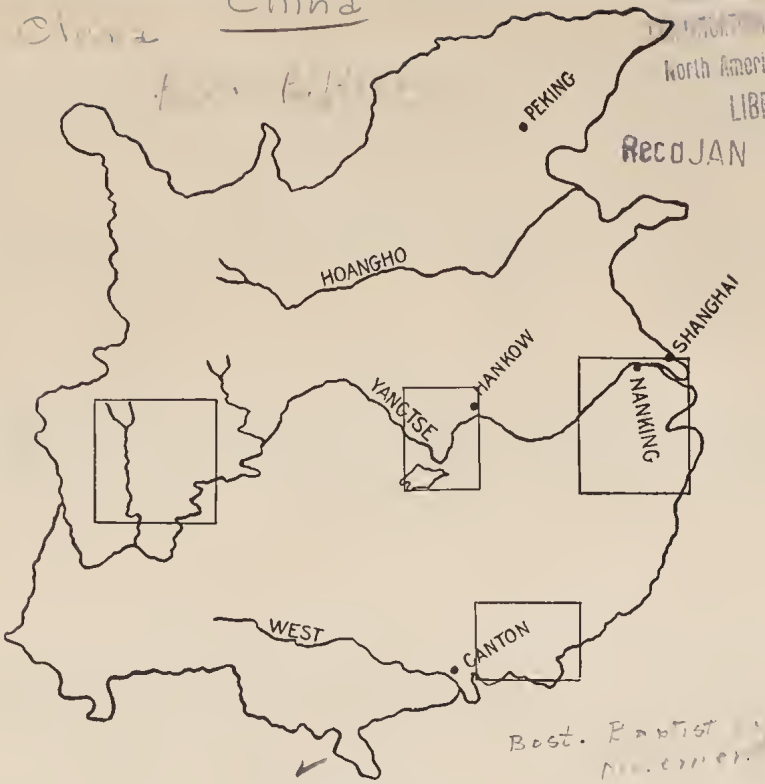

CHINA

Five-Minute Missionary Exercises for the Sunday School, for Use in the Foreign Mission Campaign, January and February, 1913

Owing to the brevity of the time of the Sunday school session this five-minute plan of missionary instruction will be found well adapted to a very large number of Sunday schools. Some of the apparent advantages are:

1. It is simple, but effective.
2. It does not require extensive preparation.
3. The items are very brief.
4. There is variety of material.
5. There is variety of presentation.
6. It produces definite missionary impression through consecutive presentation of missionary facts.
7. It will help to remove prejudice to missionary instruction in the Sunday school; for it proves not only how interesting missions are, but how intimately they are related to the Christian life.

The weekly use of this material is recommended wherever possible.

AN INTERESTING SET OF CURIOS FOR YOU

As you read, you note the need of something straight from China to clinch the point. We are ready to send to the first eight hundred Sunday schools that apply the following set of Chinese curios ordered direct from China, to accompany the Five-Minute Exercises.

1. CHINESE KITCHEN GOD, showing crude idol.
2. AN ANTI-OPIUM TRACT, circulated by the hundred thousand.
3. CHINESE NEWSPAPER, with illustrated supplement.
4. THE NEW REPUBLIC'S FLAG, a small sample.

This set may be secured free of charge by any school planning to use the five-minute exercises. Only eight hundred sets — first come, first served.

CORRESPONDENCE

For an extra copy of this pamphlet, for Five-Minute Exercises on Livingstone for March, for curios, and helps for other missionary educational work, write to the Baptist Forward Movement for Missionary Education, Ford Building, Boston, Mass.

I. A Geography Lesson

(This may best be given by a class of boys or girls, which, under the leadership of its teacher, comes to the platform and recites as a class in geography. If preferred it may be conducted by the superintendent, the answers being called forth from all classes. *A map is essential.* Where a map of China is not available, one of the boys or girls will be glad to reproduce on the blackboard, or on a large sheet of paper, the map found on the first page of this folder. In bringing out the answers to the following questions use the map freely.)

Where is China located?

How far is China from here? (Distance from New York about eleven thousand miles.)

How large is China proper? (1,532,420 square miles; about as large as that part of the United States lying east of the Mississippi River.)

What does the Chinese republic embrace in addition to China proper? (Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet, and Turkestan, making a total area of 4,277,170 square miles, much larger than the United States and its island possessions, together with Alaska.)

How many people? (About four hundred millions. Every fourth person in the world is a Chinese. Holding hands they would measure more than twelve times around the earth at its equator.)

What great rivers have China?

Why is the Hoang-Ho called " China's sorrow "? (Frequent floods.)

Name and locate some great Chinese cities.

Which is the capital?

Which is the metropolis?

Where did missionary work begin in China? (Canton. Pin the initials of Robert Morrison on map at this point.)

How do people dress in China? (Until lately Chinese dress has not changed much either in material or style for hundreds of years. The garments are made of silk or cotton and are often beautifully embroidered. Men and women dress nearly alike, but the man's coat is a little longer. In the large cities now many of the men are wearing clothes of American style.)

Is the climate of China warmer than ours that the people need no woolen clothes? (Climate much like ours and poor people often suffer from cold for their houses are not heated. When the weather is cold they put on more coats, thickly wadded with cotton, and they tell the degree of cold by saying this is a three or four or five coat day.)

What is the principal occupation? (Agriculture.)

What missions have Northern Baptists in China? (East China Mission, South China Mission, Central China Mission and West China Mission, indicated by squares on map. In each of these missions are several stations.)

How far is Hankow, in the Central China Mission, from Shanghai? (700 miles.)

How far is the West China Mission from Shanghai? (1,500 miles.)

How far is Canton from Shanghai? (1,000 miles.)

II. A History Lesson

(This should be conducted by a class of boys or girls. Use map freely in locating points referred to.)

What is the oldest nation on the earth and the youngest republic?

How old is the Chinese nation? (It was known thirty centuries before Christ. When savages were running around over Europe, and America had not even been heard of, China had her kings and her wise men and her civilization.)

What happened in China a year ago? (The people rebelled against the Manchus, who were their rulers, turned the emperor out, put a president in his place and set up a republic, intended to be much like that of the United States.)

Who was the first president? (Sun Yat Sen.)

Who is now president? (Yuan Shi Kai.)

What has become of the emperor? (He was a little fellow, only five years old. His uncle was acting for him. The whole royal family has retired to private life.)

When and why was the great wall of China built? (To keep out the Tartars on the Northern border. It was finished two hundred years before Christ, and took ten years to build. It is 1,500 miles long, 31 feet high and 31 feet thick.)

When did Robert Morrison begin (modern) missionary work in Canton? (1807.)

How long have our Baptist missionaries been in China? (Since 1836.)

What happened in 1900? (The Boxer Rebellion, an uprising of native Chinese against all foreigners. There was frightful bloodshed and slaughter. The people from other countries in the North of China were shut up in Peking and besieged, and were released only by the arrival of soldiers. Many Christian missionaries were killed by the maddened Boxers, who hated all foreigners. Chinese Christians were also murdered by the thousands, but they gave up their lives rather than give up their faith. It is said that about 235 missionaries and thousands of Chinese Christians were killed.)

What indemnity for destruction of property did China have to pay because of the Boxer Rebellion? (China was obliged to pay three hundred and thirty-three million dollars to the nations whose property had been destroyed by the Boxers, of which the United States received a large share. But after investigation, the United States felt that her share of the indemnity was too large, and eleven million dollars was returned to China, an act of justice which astonished the Chinese and made them very friendly to our country.)

What did China do with the returned indemnity? (A large part of it is being used to send Chinese young men and some young women to this country to receive a Western education. Many of these students are now in this country.)

How many Christians are there now in China? (About two hundred thousand, that is, one person in every two thousand is a Christian.)

III. China's Ancient Civilization and Her New Flag

(An outline map of China at least a yard square is to be hung at the front of the room, with pins firmly fixed on which to hang objects brought forward by members of one class and hung by the leader on a pin.

Leader. Sometimes we hear that Americans are the great inventors. In China we find many modern inventions in existence centuries ago.

1. The Chinese had gunpowder long ago in firecrackers, so we owe them the noise of the Fourth of July. (Hang up a firecracker.)

2. The Chinese had silk clothes when our ancestors were using goat skins and stone axes in the forests of Britain. (Hang up a strip of bright silk.)

3. Long before Columbus sailed the seas to find us, the Chinese knew the magnetic compass and used it to find the way across the traekless ocean. (Hang up a compass or a piece of paper with the points of the compass drawn.)

4. What do you think is the greatest invention of all? (Let a few answers be given.) Yes, that is right, Printing! Gutenberg is honored for his discovery, but did you know that the Chinese were using movable types and printing books before the English language was in existence? (Hang up a Chinese newspaper. *See Curio Set.*)

5. In the Pyramids in Egypt have been discovered beautiful bits of glass. China also was making glass centuries ago and led the world in the most beautiful potteries, enamels and glazed ware. (Hang up a piece of colored glass.)

Who can tell how America chose the stars and stripes? (Draw out the story of Betsey Ross sewing the thirteen stripes and the thirteen stars of the colonies when the Revolution opened.) We used to have a Pine Tree and a Snake flag, the thirteen joints of the snake to represent the thirteen colonies. China's flag used to be a picture of a dreadful dragon about to swallow the sun. This was the flag of the Manchu rulers of China, but in the Revolution last year all the people drew together in patriotism to demand a just government and a republic. The Revolutionists decided in secret on this new flag and sent it all over the empire to the armies. (Display the flag of the new Republic. *See Curio Set.*) You see it has five stripes representing the five great races that have united to make up China's nation: the Chinese, Manchu, Mongol, Tibetan and Mohammedan.

The Chinese are to be one of the greatest nations of history whether under emperor or president. Chinese students are white-hot with patriotism, eager to give their lives for their country. We feel the same loyalty when we gaze on the stars and stripes.

IV. China's Religion

If you should ask the Chinese to tell you who their greatest leader was they would say without hesitation Confucius, a sage who lived about five hundred years before Christ. Through all the centuries the Chinese have followed his teachings. He urged his people to take an active interest in public affairs, to be charitable towards others, to revere parents and elders, to be sincere. But he never taught the duty of man to any higher power than the head of the state or family, and he could offer no source of help to character building. "When you fail," he said, "seek help in yourself." To this day the Chinese bow before the tablet in memory of Confucius and worship their ancestors, a custom which existed long before Confucius' day.

But China has developed superstition, magic and demon worship in its worst forms, things which Confucius would hate. Here is the most common object of worship in China. It is called the Kitchen God. (*See Curio Set.*) Even the poorest houses have the picture of this spirit hung up somewhere behind a door. You see him there in the center of the picture. He is supposed to hear and see everything that is done in the house. On New Year's Day he is burned in the bonfire, and his spirit will ascend to high heaven where he will tell the story of the good and bad deeds of earth. Sometimes on New Year's Eve they paste glue over his lips so that he cannot tell tales of their

bad deeds on the morrow when he has gone up in smoke. There are demon shrines and temples full of idols scattered over China. People live in dread of these spirits. China needs Christ's teaching about God and character.

V. Two Prophecies and a Contrast

(Let two older scholars make the opening brief statements. The leader or teacher can present the "contrast" by the use of tapes.)

Prophecy 1. Four hundred years ago Martin Luther cried in despair, "Another hundred years and it will all be over and the word of God will perish from the earth for the want of some one to preach it."

Prophecy 2. William Milne who went to help Morrison in China in 1813, looking down the century, prophesied that before a century had passed a thousand converts would be gathered out of China to the cross of Christ.

The Contrast. Here is a piece of tape just one inch long. This represents the thousand converts that Milne expected to see by this time in China.

Look! Here is the tape that represents the number of Protestant church members in the churches in China to-day. In missions God answers our hopes "above all that we ask or think."

(Unroll a weighted tape 20 *feet* long down the aisle, or stand boys in a 20-foot row.)

But these results were not accomplished except through great sacrifice and suffering. The Boxer massacre was one of the most terrible persecutions of modern times, but instead of hindering the progress of Christianity its growth has been much more rapid since the Boxer uprising than before.

"At the time of the outbreak against foreigners in China, in 1900, Tientsin was one of the places where the lives of the missionaries were greatly endangered because of the fury of the fanatical Boxers. One day shells were hissing through the air, coming dangerously near to the mission residences. Finally one of these shells struck the house and wrecked a portion of the veranda. Two of the missionaries seated near the front door were slightly injured, but fortunately not seriously.

"That night as the little company gathered to tear bandages in the moonlight, and talked of the wonderful way in which God had protected them, some one started the hymn, 'How firm a foundation.' The second stanza of this hymn certainly was especially appropriate under such circumstances, and brought great comfort to the missionaries in their distress.

> 'Fear not, I am with thee; oh, be not dismayed!
> For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
> I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
> Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand!'

"Let us sing this hymn to-day in the same spirit in which we might have sung it, if we had been with that little company of missionaries in Tientsin in 1900." — From "Five Missionary Minutes."

VI. The Story of Sun Yat Sen

(Let one of the older scholars tell the simple life story of this great man, the first president of the Chinese republic, who with great skill inspired the revolutionists and with great nobility and unselfishness of character laid down his high office in order that China might be united under Yuan Shi Kai. This assignment should be made some weeks in advance in order that time may be given for a careful preparation. The *Strand Magazine*, April, 1912, contains his own story told briefly. A two-page article will be found in *Missions*, April, 1912, but sample copies are not available. The best material will be found in the papers and magazines in connection with the story of his visit to our country. Secure his picture and display if possible.)

VII. China's Great Reforms

1. *Opium.* Two great reforms have taken place in China in the last three or four years. Either would prove them to be one of the most earnest and capable races of the world. First of all see this tract printed in Chinese. (*See Curio Set.*) This has been sent to us right from China. In some provinces eighty men out of every hundred are opium smokers. Whole towns are in the grip of this awful disease. It destroys men's minds and health and character. Awakened by missionary teaching and by Christian character China has struggled to stamp out this curse. The poppy plant is no longer allowed to be grown. No opium smoker can serve in the army or hold a government position. Great piles of pipes and opium have been burned in the public squares of the cities. Thousands of men are fighting to-day against the awful habit. *China, the great heathen nation, has made more progress in three years against her greatest national evil, opium, than America has made in a century against her curse, liquor!*

2. *Foot Binding.* Opium is the curse of man. Here's a second reform against the great curse for women in China; and in this our Woman's Boards are particularly interested. Have you heard of the way the Chinese women bind their feet? Spread your hand flat with the palm down. Now bend the fingers under around the thumb. Thus the toes are bent under the foot and bound by strong bandages for years until, after terrible agony, the bones are crushed, the muscles are dead and the pointed foot can be thrust into a tiny shoe. Women with their feet thus bound when in their houses go about on their knees to escape the agony of walking. Almost all of the better class of Chinese women thus bound their feet a few years ago. Now it has all been changed. The Empress Dowager commanded that feet no longer should be bound. This will save more women and girls from terrible agony than any other possible reform in the world. These great reforms have come to China through the teachings and example of modern civilization, first taught by our missionaries.

VIII. Who Will Open the Door for Ling Te?

(An impersonation to be given by a girl, if possible, in Chinese costume.)

A stupid little Chinese girl! That is what I am.

Some days I am so naughty my grandma says I shall probably be a monkey after I die!

This scares me and gives me a big pain in my heart. I am sure I was born on an unlucky day. They tell me my mother cried a great many tears because I was a girl, and my grandma and father were very cross and angry.

I go into the temple and pray the old god to make me over into a boy. Alas! It is of no use.

Sometimes I pray the god to help me to be good so I can be a boy after I die, but I cannot see that he helps me any. I still have my naughty days.

They named me Ling Te, which means "Lead along a brother," but when another baby came she was a girl, too. I heard my father say, "We are too poor to keep another girl." Mother said, "I have had such a hard time I wish I had died when I was a baby; the poor little thing had better die."

She cried a great many tears. Father took the baby away and I never saw her.

After a few years a little brother did come, and that was indeed a joyful day!

When he was a month old we gave a big feast, and a barber shaved off every bit of his hair. Oh, how pretty his little white head was! His black eyes looked as bright as buttons.

Our guests brought money in big red envelopes and gave him many presents, too.

Grandma gave him a red cap all covered with brass images and looking-glasses, because the devils get scared and run away when they see themselves in a glass. They put a chain around his neck and bracelets on his arm to keep the bad spirits away from his heart.

When I said, "Grandma, why do you put a cat's head on his shoes?" she said, "Why, you small idiot, don't you know cats walk safely and never stumble or fall, and I wish the boy may go safely through life and always have a smooth road like the cat's."

Soon after this grandma bought bandages nine feet long, and I heard her say to my mother, "You must bind Ling Te's feet." Mother said, "Oh, I dread it, for she will fuss and cry and keep us awake nights."

"You must surely do it," said grandma, in her stern way. "Why, how do you expect to get a mother-in-law for her if her feet are not bound?"

This scared me, for I have heard some girls say it is terrible to have a mother-in-law. I ran away.

I had to come home at night and grandma began to turn my toes under and wind the long bandages around my feet.

Tighter and tighter she drew them, and when I could not bear it and began to struggle and scream and kick she called my father and mother to hold me. I could not sleep that night for the pain.

I can never tell how my feet ached; after a few days they were so sore and lame I could not walk. Once my mother said, real soft and sweet, "Poor child," and that seemed to make me feel a little better.

Now my feet are dead and do not ache so bad and I can walk on my heels pretty well.

During the sixth moon, Wen Shan, one of our neighbors' girls, came back from the Peking School. She looked so queer to us! They had taken the bandages from her feet and she walked like a boy and her feet were nearly as big as a boy's.

I laughed at her because she had followed the foreign devil and had a girl's head and a boy's feet, but often my poor feet ached so I wished in my heart that I had boy's feet, too.

At first we all made sport of Wen Shan because she had been off to the Mission School, but she was so gentle and kind we got ashamed to make her feel bad. One day, I said, "Why don't you get angry and revile, like you used to do?"

"Because Jesus said, 'Love your enemies.'"

"Jesus? Who is Jesus? Is he your teacher?"

Then she told me a beautiful story about her Jesus. I did not believe it, but I liked to hear it all the same.

She says the story is in the Bible, which is the book the true God has given us to help us to be good and please Him, so we can go to heaven when we die.

When I told grandma she said, "Ask Wen Shan to bring her Bible Book over here and read to me, and I want to hear about her Jesus God, too."

When Wen Shan came I could see that grandma loved to hear her talk about Jesus. Wen Shan seems to love her Jesus, but we are afraid of our gods, and sometimes I think her God must be nicer than ours.

No woman in our village can read. It is a wonderful thing to hear her read as well as the mandarins! One day she read where Jesus said he was

going away to prepare a great many mansions, and he promised to come again for his friends.

Grandma said, "That is very nice for the foreigners."

But Wen Shan said, "He is heaven's Lord — our heavenly Father; we are all his children. He loves Chinese just as well as he does Americans."

"Do you think there is a heaven for *me*, too?" said grandma.

"Yes, surely there is."

After this I noticed grandma did not burn any more incense to the gods, and sometimes it seemed to me she was talking to some one I could not see.

When the cold weather came she became ill. The night she died she said, "Send Ling Te to that Jesus School." Then she went off to sleep. About midnight she opened her eyes and smiled so glad! But she did not seem to see us.

"Oh, look! look! The door is open. Oh, how beautiful! Yes, it is *my* mansion! So big! There is room for all of us — I'll go first and wait for you."

Then she folded her hands and went to sleep.

After the funeral mother talked a great deal to me about going to the Jesus School. One day when my father could not hear, she said, "I want to know more about Jesus. I can never read his Bible Book, but you can go, my daughter, and learn, and then you can tell me."

I was very anxious to go, for the cold weather made my feet sore, and I cried every time I changed the bandages. At last my father said, "Oh, well; she is nothing but a girl — let her go. I shall save rice by it." So one day I started out on the little white donkey for the Jesus School. My heart felt big and shaky, but I was glad to go.

It was a long ride to Tsunhua. When we reached there the gate-keeper led us to the missionary. She took us into her beautiful room and let us see the Iron Tailor sew, and we heard the organ make its beautiful noise, and then she showed us the Girls' School.

I began to see that I had reached heaven and looked around for grandma.

The girls looked very happy, skipping around on their big feet, and I was so glad to be there, too. But when my father talked to the missionary about leaving me, her face grew very sad and she said, "I cannot take her; my school is full! I have already turned away seven girls to-day."

"Why," said I, "you must be mistaken. Grandma said there was room for all of us."

She put her arms around me and said, "Poor child, I am so sorry, but there truly is no room for you. I have asked the kind friends in America to send more money. If they will send it, then I can take you."

This was a far-away hope and did not comfort me much.

My happy heart was turned to iron, and my words and tears were all frozen up together. My father led me away out through the gate.

I did not think the keeper would really shut it in my face, but he did. *He shut the gate of heaven in my face* and I had not even seen my grandma!

Now I am thinking all the time about those happy girls *inside*, while I am shut *outside*. I often see a hungry look on my mother's face, and she says to me, "Oh, my daughter; I did hope I was going to know about Jesus."

I don't know how to pray to Jesus — I wish I did — but every night I say, "*Please*, Jesus, ask your friends in America that have money to send some over here to China — enough to make a place for this stupid child, for, oh, dear Jesus, it makes me feel so bad to be *shut out*."

(This story in fuller form may be had at five cents per copy or 50c. per dozen for distribution.)

Baptist Forward Movement for Missionary Education, Ford Building, Boston.

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